

Attorney General Jack Conway and his Department of Criminal Investigations today announced the guilty plea of former Northern Kentucky University Athletic Director Scott William Eaton in Campbell Circuit Court.

Scott Eaton, 50, of Ft. Thomas, Ky., was charged by Criminal Information today in Campbell Circuit Court with one count of Theft by Unlawful Taking between \$10,000 and \$1 million for stealing \$311,215 from Northern Kentucky University (NKU) from January 2007 to March 2013. Eaton entered a guilty plea to the charge, agreed to serve the maximum term of 10 years in prison, and repay NKU \$311,215 in restitution. He will also have to pay the mandatory felony fine of \$1,000 and court costs.

Last year, NKU President Geoffrey Mearns terminated Eaton's employment as NKU's Athletic Director when Mearns discovered Eaton had engaged in inappropriate relationships with employees and a student. NKU engaged an external firm to audit Athletic Department accounts under Eaton's control; that audit confirmed suspicions that he had also stolen funds from NKU.